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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF HINDLEY.

FORTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

together with the

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE YEAR 1942.

HINDLEY:
FRED BRADLEY AND SON LTD.,
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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Hindley.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hindley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1942.

The Report is again much abbreviated, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, but an endeavour has been made to embrace the most important details, and particularly those which indicate the state of health of the township.

Detailed statistics are preserved for publication after the termination of the war.

Special attention and much time has been given by the staff in procuring the consent of parents to the immunisation against Diphtheria particularly.

A distinctly more favourable attitude has become noticeable recently, due, no doubt, to propaganda through wireless broadcasts, newspapers, personal talks at the Clinic, etc. These, together with personal interviews by the staff, have resulted in very satisfactory progress.

The centre for the treatment of Scabies has now been well established and is doing a very beneficial work. All members of the family are being contacted, and disinfesting of the personal and bed clothing procure complete eradication of the disease from the home.

All the services of the Department have been fully maintained.

I wish particularly to call attention to the growth of the Maternity and Child Welfare Service. Nearly three-quarters of all Hindley babies are brought to the Welfare Clinic within the first few weeks of life, and attend regularly afterwards. It is evident the service is highly appreciated by the mothers.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their co-operation and consideration, and to the staff for their loyalty and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. CLAY BECKITT,
Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer of Health, Child Welfare Officer, and School Medical Officer:

J. CLAY BECKITT, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

H. B. BARKER, M.B., CH.B.LOND., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.E.

Consulting Gynaecologist - - - - R. L. HARTLEY.

Consulting Pathologist and Bacteriologist :
G. A. CARY LYNCH, M.D., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon - - - - W. CLEGG, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Sanitary Inspectors:

THOS. FRANCE (Chief).
Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute;
Associate Member, Institute of Sanitary Engineers;
Meat Inspector's Certificates:—
Royal Sanitary Institute;
Liverpool University.

J. H. PLATT (Additional).
Certificate, S.I.B.;
Associate Member, Royal Sanitary Institute;
Meat Inspector's Certificate—Liverpool University.

Health Visitors:

Mrs. K. BARTON, Certificate, Liverpool Hospital, and C.M.B.

Miss E. RIMMER, S.R.N., C.M.B.., R.S.I. (Resigned 31st Jan., 1942).

Mrs. M. C. HOWGATE, S.R.N., C.M.B.., R.S.I.

Fever Hospital:

Mrs. FARNON, Matron.

Clerical Staff:

Miss D. M. BUCKMASTER.
R. WILLIAMS (H.M. Forces).
Mrs. I. D. PASS (Temporary).
W. GREEN (Disinfector).

SECTION A.

Area in acres—2612.21.

Population (Census, 1931)—21,629.

Registrar-General's estimate of population for birth and death-rates, 1942—18,320.

Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)—5,140.
End of 1942 (according to Rate Books)—5,518.

Rateable Value—£69,999.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£268.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The industrial occupations in Hindley were, for the most part, Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Coal Mining. There are now no Weaving Sheds, and only two Cotton Mills remain. All Pits have ceased working. There is little unemployment, practically all employable persons having been absorbed into munitions and other allied industries.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population—19.4.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate ...	344	154	190
Illegitimate ...	13	4	9
Total	357	158	199
Stillbirths—Legitimate	15	9	6
Illegitimate	Nil.	—	—
Infant deaths under one year:—			
Legitimate	11	6	5
Illegitimate	1	—	1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other Puerperal Causes ...	Nil.	Nil.

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births—33.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births—31.95.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—76.9.

General Death Statistics.

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—14.1.

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	260	130	130

Principal causes of mortality:—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—35.

Deaths from Cerebral Vascular Lesions (all ages)—46.

Heart Disease—49.

Bronchitis—26.

Pneumonia—14.

	1941.	1942.
Registered in Hindley Urban District ...	248	260
Belonging to, and registered out of the District	73	91
Less Deaths of non-residents transferred ...	2	2
Death-rate per 1,000 living	13.3	14.1
Infantile mortality death-rate per 1,000 births	80.3	33
Percentage death-rate of Infants—Legitimate..	8.33	3.95
Percentage death-rate of Infants—Illegitimate	Nil	7.69
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births...	—	2.8
Live and stillbirths ...	—	2.68

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. (a) See page 1 (Staff).

(ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities:—Pathological and Bacteriological Department, Wigan Infirmary, Manchester University.

(b) Ambulance Services—Adequate.

(i) For Infectious Cases—Ford Motor Ambulance, provided by the Hindley Urban District Council.

(ii) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases:—Austin Motor Ambulance.

Agreement with the Urban District Councils of Abram and Ince-in-Makerfield for joint use of Ambulance by the three Authorities concerned, garaged at Hindley, available at any hour of the night or day, and co-ordinated with adjoining Authorities.

(c) Nursing in the Home:—Two District Nurses (Queen's) are working in the district. Their services are highly appreciated.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics:—White House, Liverpool Road.

The following Clinics were held:—

Minor Ailments; Pre and Post Natal; Toddlers; Dental; Ophthalmic; Sunlight; Immunisation (Diphtheria). (Jointly with School Medical Service).

Infant Cases Treated at the Clinic during the Year 1942.

No. of cases treated	233.
No. of attendances	441.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinc during the Year 1942.

During the year 1942, 95 Ante-Natal and 10 Post-Natal cases attended the Clinic and made 428 attendances.

15 cases received treatment for the following defects:—

10 Dental.

2 Anæmia.

1 Mastitis.

1 Hæmorrhoids.

1 Suppurating Cyst, Eye Lid.

(e) Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.
Arrangement with Leigh Joint Hospital Board for the reception of all cases of Infectious Disease.

General.

Hospital and other Institutions available for the district:—

General Medical and Surgical:—

Ancoats Infirmary, Manchester; Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and Salford Royal Infirmary; Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary; Bolton Infirmary and Billinge Hospital.

Children:—Pendlebury Children's Hospital and Ancoats Infirmary.

Venereal Diseases:—Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.

Tuberculosis:—County Sanatoria and Hospital.

Chronic Sick:—Billinge Hospital.

Mental Diseases—County Hospital.

Orthopædic:—Scheme in operation with Lancashire County Council at Wigan.

Ear, Nose and Throat:—Manchester and Wigan Infirmaries.

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia:—Arrangements with Leigh Joint Hospital Board.

A sum of £100 is contributed by the Hindley Urban District Council to the Manchester and Salford Charities' Fund. This sum is there apportioned to the various Hospitals in Manchester and Salford.

These facilities are duly appreciated and freely used by the inhabitants of Hindley.

3. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Births notified:—M. 104, F. 138 (Illegitimate 2 M, 2 F.), Still-births 7, Total 253.

Notifications received:—

Same day as birth	Nil
One day after birth	10
Two days after birth...	135
Three days after birth	87
Four or more days after birth ...	21

	Births.	Still-births.
Attended at birth by Doctor (engaged) and Midwives	58	4
Attended at birth by Midwives and medical help	49	2
Attended at birth by Midwives	139	1
	246	7

Home Visits.	Infants.	1—2.	2—3.	3—4.	4—5.	Over 5.	Total.
1st Visits: 246. ...	391.	438.	358.	289.	214.	6	1,942.

Attendances at —							
Clinic ...	3,962	1031	387	179	96	—	5,655
Consulted M.O.	241	71	62	34	22	—	430
Total Clinic ...	4,023	1,102	449	213	118	—	6,085

Number of Visits to Homes	1714
Pre-Natal Consultations	418
Post-Natal Consultations	10
Operations	Nil

New Cases:—Breast Fed, 234; Artificial Fed, 12.

(i) Midwifery and Maternity Services. Lancashire County Council is the supervising Authority. Three Municipal Midwives have been allocated to Hindley.

(ii) Institutional provision for mothers or children:—None.

(iii) Health Visitors:—One whole-time, one part-time.

(iv) Child Life Protection:—The work is carried out by the Health Visitor under the supervision of the M.O.H.

(v) Orthopædic Treatment:—Scheme in conjunction with County Council. Ten children under school age attended, making 20 attendances.

(vi) Dental Treatment:—Ten sessions per annum are allocated to Maternity and Child Welfare work. 10 Pre-Natal, no Post-Natal and 17 Pre-School Children received dental treatment during the year.

(vii) Ophthalmic Treatment:—Eight children under school age were referred to the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Refraction Cases	4
Glasses prescribed and obtained ...	4
Treatment Cases	4

(viii) Artificial Light Treatment:—31 Pre-School Children received treatment during the year and made 122 attendances.

SECTION C.

1. (i) **Water.**—The water supply is conducted from the Rivington water main of the Liverpool Corporation to a service reservoir at Westhoughton, from which it is distributed throughout the district. The supply is continuous, abundant, and of good quality. Eleven houses in the fields are not provided with a separate domestic supply. Periodic chemical and bacteriological reports prove the water potable and free from contamination.

   (ii) **Drainage and Sewerage.**—The complete reorganisation of the Platt Bridge Sewage Works is in progress.

2. **Rivers and Streams.**—Pollution of Borsdane Brook by local works through the discharge of a black fluid (cleaning barrels). A method of precipitation and clarification of the water was instituted and is satisfactory.

3. (i) **Closet Accommodation.**—There are 4 W.W.C's, 16 pail closets and 41 privy middens in the district. No sewer being available, 78 houses have not separate sanitary accommodation. Two privies were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

   (ii) **Public Cleansing.**—This was carried out—apart from Platt Bridge and Hindley Green, which districts are let by contract—under the supervision of the Surveyor, by the Council's workmen.

   (iii) **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**—The Medical Officer of Health supervises the work of the department generally, visits special premises at least once annually, and personally investigates all conditions reported to him by the Sanitary Inspector as injurious to health, or likely to become so. Each individual case of infectious disease is reviewed and instruction given with regard to its removal to hospital, or isolation at home.

   (iv) **Shops.**—Sanitary conditions supervised and improvements progressing.

   (v) **Smoke Abatement.**—One observation.

   (vi) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**—None in the district.

   (vii) **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

(1) (a)	Council Houses infested	3
	Council Houses disinfested	3
(b)	Other Houses found to be infested ...	10
	Other Houses disinfested	10

(2) Methods employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs. —Houses fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide, spraying with Zaldecide and by fumigating with Sulphur.

(3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses:— Complete removal of furniture and belongings carried out by Local Authority in own vans and fumigated with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas before delivery to new houses.

(4) Whether the work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority or by a contractor?—Slum Clearance by contractor; other dwellings by Local Authority.

(5) The measures taken, by way of supervision or education of tenants, to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing:—Periodical inspection of houses by Sanitary Inspectors.

4. **Schools.**—The Sanitary condition of the schools in the area is satisfactory and the water supply good and sufficient.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

(a) Statistics.

Number of houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) ...	—
(i) By the Local Authority	—
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	—
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above)	—
(ii) By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (iii) above)	Nil

(b) **Housing Conditions.**

Sufficiency of supply of houses.—The shortage is gradully increasing on account of:—

(a) Evacuees from other areas.

(b) Establishment of new works.

(c) Cessation of building operations.

Actions taken during the year regarding Clearance Areas and Improvement Areas:—

No Clearance or Improvement Areas were represented during the year.

Housing defects dealt with under Public Health Act, 1936:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 289

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 289

SECTION E.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops were inspected at regular intervals and are generally clean. 10 samples examined for bacteriological content were found to be satisfactory, and 11 unsatisfactory.

(b) **Milk and Other Foods.**—All Slaughterhouses closed under the Government Scheme.

Food Condemned.—(See Sanitary Inspector's Report).

Premises used for the preparation of foods were inspected frequently and were, on the whole, satisfactory.

(c) **Adulteration, Etc.**—Action taken by Local Authority (if they are a Food and Drugs Authority) in respect of:—

(i) Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—Carried out by County Council Officials.

(ii) Other Food Acts or Regulations:—Observations made

(d) **Nutrition.**—Addresses have been given in schools and at Clinic on the nutritional values of various dietaries.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

Twenty-nine cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. Anti-Toxin was promptly administered. Twenty-nine cases sent to Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.—17 notifications were received. 8 patients were sent to Hospital.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. Two were removed to an Institution and in each case a good recovery was made.

One case of Cerebro Spinal Fever was notified during the year and was sent to Hospital.

Scabies.—Facilities have been established for the treatment of Scabies in the Gas Yard, Cross Street, Hindley. 79 persons (9 under 5 years, 34 5-14 years, and 36 adults) attended for treatment.

The therapeutic agent used is a 25 per cent. emulsion of Benzyl Benzoate, which has been found very effective, and we have had very few secondary cases. Disinfestation of clothing and bedding has been made a routine practice.

Local practitioners have been informed of these facilities for the treatment of Scabies, which are freely available to all residents of the district.

III.—TUBERCULOSIS.

No action necessary under Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of Public Health Act, 1936.

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths is 2 in 10.

Notification of tuberculosis is generally satisfactory.

TABLE I.—Table showing the number of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified from the whole district at different Age Periods, the Localities in which they occurred, and the Number removed to Hospitals during the year 1942.

Disease.	Cases notified in whole district.													Total.		Total Cases Removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages	At Ages—years.												M.	F.		
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up				
Scarlet Fever	17	....	....	....	1	2	8	4	....	1	1	....	....	8	9	8	....
Diphtheria	29	....	....	1	2	...	10	7	6	2	....	1	....	17	12	29	....
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles	78	4	4	11	16	14	28	1	....	....	....	....	....	46	32	2	...
Pneumonia	30	2	...	1	....	1	4	2	2	5	2	9	2	21	9	....	14
Whooping Cough	14	3	...	3	1	3	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	6	8	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	2	2	....
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	...	....	....	....	...	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	1	1	1
Erysipelas	5	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	2	2	3	....	....
Dysentry	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	...
TOTALS	176	10	4	16	20	19	54	14	8	10	5	11	4	100	76	42	15

Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods.	New Cases. Respiratory. M.	New Cases. Respiratory. F.	New Cases. Non-Respiratory. M.	New Cases. Non-Respiratory. F.	Deaths. Respiratory. M.	Deaths. Respiratory. F.	Deaths. Non-Respiratory. M.	Deaths. Non-Respiratory. F.
0— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— ...	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1
5— ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
15— ...	2	6	—	1	—	2	—	—
25— ...	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	—
35— ...	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
45— ...	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55— ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
65— ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	9	6	8	3	3	1	1
	— 15 —		— 14 —		— 6 —		— 2 —	

APPENDIX II.

(1) **Local Statistics.**

(a) **Births:—**

	Live Births. Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	344	154	190
Illegitimate	13	4	9
	357	158	199—
Stillbirths	15	9	6

(b) **Deaths:—**

(For 36 Divisions see Table II).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Total.	M.	F.
Legitimate	11	6	5
Illegitimate	1	—	1

Tuberculosis.

ew cases and Mortality during 1942.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
	2	6	—	1	—	2	—	—
	1	2	—	2	1	—	—	—
	1	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	6	9	6	8	3	3	1	1
	— 15 —		— 14 —		— 6 —		— 2 —	

APPENDIX II.

atistics.

s:—

	Live Births. Total.	M.	F.
te	344	154	190
ate	13	4	9
	357	158	199—
s ...	15	9	6

ths:—

(For 36 Divisions see Table II).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Total.	M.	F.
te ...	11	6	5
ate	1	—	1

TABLE II.

Causes of and Ages at Death for the Year 1942.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District.																			
	Under 1		1 to 2		2 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 45		45 to 65		65 and Up.		All ages	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1—Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
2—Cerebro Spinal Fever	...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...	1
3—Scarlet Fever	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
4—Whooping Cough	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
5—Diphtheria	...		...		1	1	...		...		...		...		...		1	1
6—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...		1		...		...		2		2	1	1		...		3	4
7—Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...		1		...		...		...		1		1		...		1	2
8—Syphilitic Diseases	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
9—Influenza	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
10—Measles	...		...		1		...		...		...		...		...		1	...
11—Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-Encephalitis ...	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
12—Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
13—Cancer of Bronchial Cavity and Oesophagus (M.) Uterus (F.)	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		1		1	...
14—Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...		...		...		...		...		1		5	4	2	3	7	8
15—Cancer of Breast	...		...		...		...		...		...			3		2	...	5
16—Cancer of all other sites	...		...		...		...		...		...		4	4	2	4	6	8
17—Diabetes	...		...		...		...		...		...			1	1		1	1
18—Intra-cranium; Vascular Lesions	...		...		...		...		...		...		10	1	20	15	30	16
19—Heart Disease		1	...		...		...		...		3		6	3	14	22	20	29
20—Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...		...		...		...		...		...		1	1	5	5	6	6
21—Bronchitis	...		...		...		...		...		1		8		10	7	19	7
22—Pneumonia -		2		1	1	1	...		...		1		1	1	4	2	7	7
23—Other Respiratory Diseases	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			1	...	1
24—Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
25 Diarrhœa (under 2 years)		2	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	2
26—Appendicitis	...		...		...		...			1	...		...			1	...	2
27—Other Digestive Diseases	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			2	...	2
28—Nephritis	...			1	...		...		...		1	1	2	2	2	2	5	6
29—Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	...
30—Other Maternal Causes	...		...		...		...		...		1		...		...		...	1
31—Premature Birth	5	1	...		...		...		...		...		...		...		5	1
32—Congenital; Malformation; Birth Injuries; Infantile Disease	1			1	...		...		...		...		...		...		1	1
33—Suicide	...		...		...		...		...		...		1		...		1	...
34—Road Traffic Accidents	...		...		...		...		...		...		...			2	...	2
35—Other Violent Causes	...		...		...		...		1		3		4	1	2	2	10	3
36—All Other Causes	...		...		...		...		...		1		1	2	3	12	5	14
TOTALS	6	6	5		3	2	...		1	3	9	9	45	23	66	82	130	130

Sanitary Inspectors's Report for 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-seventh Annual Report of the work of the department for the year 1942. It is prepared in accordance with Circular 2067 and is in abridged form.

The departmental work throughout has proceeded favourably, considering the many difficulties. There is delay in getting repairs executed, occasioned by the shortage of skilled labour and materials. Owners and agents generally have co-operated and endeavoured to meet your demands in every way. Inspections have continued normally and we have concentrated especially on essential repairs.

One of the chief difficulties to which I would like to draw special attention is the scarcity of washboilers. Being a working-class district, these are not only essential for personal cleanliness, but are a domestic necessity. The exigencies of the staff were also directed in a large measure to work connected with the A.R.P. Casualty Service.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

THOS. FRANCE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Overcrowding.

This is on the increase, mainly by incursion of evacuees and by newly-married couples having to reside with parents. Many premises previously unoccupied have been re-conditioned and made reasonably habitable.

Offensive Trades.

KNACKER YARD.—Only the meat is boiled on the premises. This is done in open pans and there is very little effluent from this process. All offals are stored and removed (untreated) twice per week

to another district. The premises are being re-conditioned and the works are nearly completed. Many buildings have been demolished and the other walls have been rebuilt and the buildings roofed with asbestos sheets. All the floors have been taken up and provided with 9-inch concrete level and with proper fall and channel to gullies. The slaughterhouse walls have been provided with a hard impervious surface with sufficient light and ventilation. The premises generally can now be kept in a clean state and there is considerable less chance of rodent infestation.

The only other registered offensive trade in the district, Croft's Tripe Works, closed down and the premises have not been used during the year.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The number of retail purveyors on the register at the end of the year was 19 farmers, 5 dairymen and 36 retailers of bottled milk (10 pasteurised, 1 tuberculin tested, and 25 sterilised). The cowsheds and dairies of the producers are fairly well kept, and the walls and ceilings limewashed at least twice during the year, i.e., May and November. Improvements and structural alterations were carried out at the following farms:—

RANICAR'S FARM.

No. 1 Cowshed (north side).—Improved light and ventilation by fitting light in door in front of cattle on west side, with additional window at other end of shippon on north side. Concreted floors, with fall to manure channel; repairs to roof and new eaves gutters.

No. 2 Cowshed.—Two doors bricked up and new door fixed in centre of building; suitable window fixed. Concreted floors, with fall to manure channel.

Exterior.—Flagged near doors, and part of yard surface paved with proper fall to gulley. Middenstead wall re-built.

HILL TOP FARM.

Floor concreted, with suitable channel and fall.

CLOSE LANES FARM.

Improved light and ventilation to shippons. Floors concreted.

Samples of milk were submitted for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act. 21 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination by your officers, 10 of which were found to be satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory. Periodical visits were paid to farms during the process of milking. Talks with the farmers and delivery of Circulars on the production of clean milk, in an effort made to get a pure milk supply.

Ten Retailers' Licences were issued for sale of Pasteurised Milk.

One Retailers' Licence was issued for sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Infested buildings and dwellings numbering 13 (3 of which were Council Houses) were fumigated with Zaldecide. The cost of disinfestation has, in all cases, been borne by the owners.

Several houses infested with other forms of vermin (cockroaches, fleas, etc.) were treated with insecticides and Sulphur Dioxide.

Provision and Replacement of Ash Bins.

Ashbins and ashtubs falling in disrepair, numbering 147, were renewed by covered galvanised ashbins.

Disinfection.

Disinfectants supplied free (liquid and powder), special bottles being provided. A charge of 6d. is made for the first bottle and is exchanged free. During the year 1,595 bottles were supplied to residents, 579 at the Health Office, 487 at your distributing station at Platt Bridge, and 329 at your Hindley Green station—99 sales and 1,496 re-issues.

For disinfection of houses after infectious disease, a 5 per cent. solution of Formalin is generally used in the form of a spray, although Formic Vaplamps, in a gaseous form, and sulphur candles, are stocked and used in certain cases.

The Elementary Schools were sprayed internally with a disinfectant solution during each vacation—Easter, Whitsun, Summer, October and Christmas.

Schools disinfected—39.

During the year 116 houses were disinfected after infectious disease. 2,523 articles of clothing passed through the steam disinfector.

Clinic disinfected on two occasions.

During the year 544 articles were disinfected for a neighbouring Authority.

Number of articles destroyed, chiefly straw mattresses—64.

Meat Inspection.

Pigs (killed for home consumption) inspected—12.

Seven Licences to slaughter animals were granted to Slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The meat supply is generally of a fairly high standard. Constant supervision is maintained.

The following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Canned Meat	127½ lbs.
Canned Vegetables	32 lbs.
Sausages	12 lbs.
Oranges	24 lbs.
Chocolate	28 lbs.
Dried Fruit	25 lbs.
Goat Meat	120 lbs.
Flour	20 lbs.
Evaporated Milk	120 Tins.
Soup	3 Tins.
Rabbits (fresh)	87

The Livestock (Restrictions on Slaughtering) Order, 1940, came into operation an the 15th January, 1940, and provided that no person shall, for human consumption, slaughter or cause to be slaughtered, any livestock as defined in the Order, except with the authority of the Ministry of Food, and therefore all slaughtering in your area was prohibited from that date, excepting pig-keepers slaughtering for their own consumption.

Summary of Inspections and General Sanitary Work.

Nuisances brought forward from 1941 ...	114
Nuisances reported to Committee during 1942	1606
Nuisances abated during 1942	1285
Number of letters sent	135
Number of Preliminary Notices	182
Number of Statutory Notices	37
Number of School Notices	41
Number of Parents' Notices	9
Number of Houses Disinfected	116
Number of Articles Disinfected...	2523
Number of Premises Inspected...	912
Factories	41
Knackers Yard	53
Bakehouses	34
Dairies and Cowsheds	52
Picture Halls	4
Number of Visits re Infectious Disease ...	172

Summary of Nuisances Dealt With.

Defective Water Supply and Cistern and W.C. Pedestals	232
Defective and choked Drains	168
Defective Roofs	100
Defective Gutters, Gullies and Downspouts ...	77
Irregular and insanitary Yard Surfaces ...	16
Defective Brickwork to Yard and other Walls and Chimney Stacks	42
Absence of Refuse Receptacles	147
Dampness	13

Defective Doors, Door Frames, Windows and Window Frames	110
Insufficient Light and Ventilation	24
Insanitary Slop Sinks and Waste Pipes ...	32
Defective Grates and Washboilers	33
Defective Plasterwork	65
Defective Floors	29
Insanitary Back Passages	15
Verminous Houses	13
Insanitary condition of Premises	22
Houses with general defects	289
Living Vans so placed	47
Insanitary condition of Factories and Workshops	7
Insanitary condition of Cowsheds and Daries...	48
Other Nuisances	75

Factories and Workshops Act.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

Premises. (1)	Inspections. (2)	Number of Written Notices. (3)
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	8	1
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	32	3
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises) ...	1	—
	—	—
	41	4
	—	—

(2) **Defects Found.**

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—		
Want of Cleanliness	5	5
Other Nuisances	2	2
TOTAL ...	7	7

Bakehouses.

There are 16 bakehouses in the district, wholesale and retail. 34 visits have been made during the past year. In 5 instances it was necessary to call the attention of the occupier to the condition of the premises, particularly with regard to the limewashing of the walls and ceilings, otherwise they are fairly clean and well kept.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

In conjunction with the County Sanitary Officer, Mr. J. Mercer, the following samples were submitted for analysis:—

Milk	8
Butter	1
Margarine	1
Lard	1
Piccalilli	1
	12

All samples were found to be genuine.

Smoke Observations.—One taken; no action necessary.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

All cases of notifiable infectious diseases notified are visited, necessary enquiries are made and advice given as to isolation, etc. Disinfection is carried out after recovery or removal to Hospital.

Red Cross Ambulance Services.

The number of patients removed in 1942 was 827.

Number of cases removed to and from Manchester...	21
Number of cases removed to and from Wigan ...	677
Number of cases removed to and from Leigh ...	103
Other cases	26
	827

Total mileage recorded—7,499.7.

I desire to tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and the Council, the Clerk, Surveyor and other Officials and Members of the Staff for their co-operation and assistance.

THOS. FRANCE,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Engineer and Surveyor's Office,
Town Hall,
Hindley,
7th January, 1943.

Particulars of Rainfall, etc., recorded at Platt Bridge Sewage Works during the year ending 31st December, 1942.

Height of Rain Gauge—98.64 feet above sea level.
Height of Barometer—104.00 feet above sea level.
Area of Hindley—2,612.182 statute acres.

Month.	Mean Monthly Temp.	Mean Monthly Pressure.	No. of days on which rain fell.	Max. fall in 24 hrs. in inches.		Total Monthly Rainfall.
January ...	34.7	29.82	13	23rd	.75	3.29
February ...	31.2	30.08	6	1st	.74	2.15
March ...	40.7	29.92	11	8th	.72	3.00
April ...	46.8	29.84	11	3rd	.40	1.90
May ...	50.4	29.83	14	25th	.44	3.64
June ...	57.5	30.10	4	13th	.20	.45
July ...	60.2	29.94	15	4th	.92	3.69
August ...	61.6	29.88	17	30th	.88	4.37
September ...	56.4	29.91	18	5th	.60	2.21
October ...	50.4	29.78	13	9th	1.02	4.04
November ...	40.1	30.08	8	30th	.37	1.23
December ...	43.2	29.76	19	4th	1.02	4.81
Totals for the year 1942 ...		...	149			34.78

Total weight of rain which fell in Hindley during the year 1942:—
9,173,155 tons.

Rainfall in inches:—

1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
44.51	42.58	28.36	32.02	39.55	39.25	30.96	43.79	41.23	37.82	33.51

Thermometer Readings.		Barometer Readings.	
Highest for the year ...	70°F.	Highest for the year ...	30.55
Lowest for the year ...	23°F.	Lowest for the year ...	29.24
Mean for the year ...	47°F.	Mean for the year ...	29.92

OSWALD P. ABBOTT,
Engineer and Surveyor,
Town Hall,
Hindley,
7th January, 1943.